

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BUJUMB 00870 261555Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 PM-05 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15
CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-01 ICA-11 /072 W
-----065828 271642Z /43
R 261350Z JUL 78
FM AMEMBASSY BUJUMBURA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7266
INFO AMEMBASSY KIGALI
AMEMBASSY ROME

C O N F I D E N T I A L BUJUMBURA 0870

EO 11652: GDS
TAGS: PEDR, VT, BY
SUBJECT: BURUNDI MAY BE READY GRANT AGREEMENT FOR NEW NUNCIO

1. OVER THREE MONTHS AGO VATICAN REQUESTED
AGREEMENT FOR REPLACEMENT OF APOSTOLIC NUNCIO
ARCHBISHOP NICOLA ROTUNNO WHO LEFT BUJUMBURA
MAY 19. IN DEFERENCE TO BURUNDI SENSITIVITIES
VATICAN ENDED DUAL ACCREDITATION TO RWANDA AND
BURUNDI. NEW NUNCIO TO RWANDA ALREADY ANNOUNCED
BUT NO A-NOUNCEMENT YET ON BURUNDI AGREEMENT.

2. DIPLOMATIC COMMUNITY HERE ATTRIBUTES BURUNDI
DELAY TO LINGERING GOB RESENTMENT OVER FORMER
DUAL ACCREDITATION AND OVER VARIOUS TENSIONS
WHICH AROSE DURING TENURE PREVIOUS NUNCIO INCLUDING
THOSE AFFECTING NUNCIO'S RELATIONS WITH BURUNDI
CLERGY ALTHOUGH NO ONE APPEARS TO UNDERSTAND PRECISE
NATURE OF LATTER PROBLEM.

3. LOCAL GRAPEVINE NOW SUGGESTS QUOTE DOSSIER
END QUOTE IS IN PRESIDENT'S OFFICE AND AGREEMENT
WILL FINALLY BE GRANTED AT END OF JULY WHEN
FOREIGN MINISTER MUGANGA RETURNS FROM BELGRADE.
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Message Attributes

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Disposition Approved on Date:
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